

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier, comprising:
a carrier storage for storing data containing a biometric template and an application-specific function;
carrier communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data; and
carrier processing means for comparing the biometric template with a biometric sample received from an external arrangement, and arranged to complete a handshake process with the external arrangement as well as perform the application-specific function and transmit a result of the same to the external arrangement, only if the biometric sample matches the biometric template.
2. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application-specific function comprises retrieving application-specific information stored in the carrier storage, said result containing the application-specific information.
3. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application-specific function comprises executing program code stored in the carrier storage.
4. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to perform the application-specific function and transmit said result of the same to the external arrangement in response to an enquiry received from the external arrangement.
5. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the biometric template corresponds to a digital image containing individual-specific information.
6. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the biometric template defines at least part of a fingerprint.
7. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the biometric template corresponds to feature reference data.

8. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to store in the carrier storage a threshold value which defines to what degree the biometric sample should correspond to the biometric template for a match to be considered to exist.

9. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data carrier is a smart card.

10. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data carrier is an electronic passport.

11. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data carrier is a mobile phone.

12. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data carrier is a PDA (Personal Digital Assistant).

13. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to prevent the external arrangement from accessing the biometric template.

14. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to communicate with the external arrangement only for a predetermined time after the match has been considered to exist.

15. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to transmit a presence signal in response to a search signal received from the external arrangement to confirm its presence within a communication range of the external arrangement.

16. (Previously Presented) A portable data carrier as claimed in claim 1, arranged to prevent all transmission of data from the same until a match is considered to exist.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring data by means of a portable data carrier which comprises a carrier storage for storing data containing a biometric template and an application-specific function as well as carrier communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data, the method comprising:

receiving a biometric sample from an external arrangement,

comparing the biometric sample with the biometric template with a carrier processing means in the data carrier, and

completing a handshake process with the external arrangement as well as performing the application-specific function and transmitting a result of the same to the external arrangement, only if the biometric sample matches the biometric template.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein performing the application-specific function comprises retrieving application-specific information stored in the carrier storage, said result containing the application-specific information.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein performing the application-specific function comprises executing program code stored in the carrier storage.

20. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, comprising performing the application-specific function and transmitting said result of the same to the external arrangement in response to an enquiry received from the external arrangement.

21. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the biometric template corresponds to a digital image containing individual-specific information.

22. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the biometric template defines at least part of a fingerprint.

23. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the biometric template corresponds to feature reference data.

24. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising evaluating a result of the comparison against a threshold value which is stored in the carrier storage and which defines to what degree the biometric sample should correspond to the biometric template for a match to be considered to exist.

25. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the data carrier is a smart card.

26. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the data carrier is an electronic passport.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the data carrier is a mobile phone.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the data carrier is a PDA (Personal Digital Assistant).

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising preventing communication with the external arrangement when a predetermined time, after a match has been considered to exist, has elapsed.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising receiving a search signal from the external arrangement and, in response to the search signal, transmitting a presence signal to confirm its presence within a communication range of the external arrangement.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising preventing all transmission of data from the portable data carrier until a match is considered to exist.

32. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising a computer program with instructions which are arranged, in execution, to carry out the method as claimed in claim 17.

33. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement comprising:
arrangement communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data; and
a sensor for recording a biometric sample, wherein the arrangement means is arranged to transmit the biometric sample to a portable data carrier, and arranged to complete a handshake process with the portable data carrier and receive from the portable data carrier a result of an application-specific function performed in the portable data carrier, only if the biometric sample matches a biometric template stored in the portable data carrier.

34. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, further arranged to receive as said result application-specific information stored in the data carrier.

35. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, further arranged to transmit an enquiry to the portable data carrier and receive said result in response to said enquiry.

36. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, wherein the biometric sample corresponds to a digital image containing individual-specific information.

37. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, wherein the biometric sample defines at least part of a fingerprint.

38. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, wherein the biometric sample corresponds to feature data.

39. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, further arranged to transmit a search signal and, in response to the search signal, receive a presence

signal from the portable data carrier to detect its presence within a communication range of the external arrangement.

40. (Previously Presented) An external arrangement as claimed in claim 33, further arranged to transmit the biometric sample according to a predetermined schedule until a match is considered to exist.

41. (Previously Presented) A method of transferring data by means of an external arrangement which comprises arrangement communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data, and a sensor, comprising recording a biometric sample by means of the sensor, the method comprising:

transmitting the biometric sample to a portable data carrier, and

completing a handshake process with the portable data carrier and receiving from the portable data carrier a result of an application-specific function performed in the portable data carrier, only if the biometric sample matches a biometric template stored in the portable data carrier.

42. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 41, comprising receiving as said result application-specific information stored in the data carrier.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 41, further comprising transmitting an enquiry to the portable data carrier and receiving said result in response to said enquiry.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 41, further comprising transmitting a search signal and, in response to the search signal, receiving a presence signal from the portable data carrier to detect its presence within a communication range of the external arrangement.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 41, further comprising transmitting the biometric sample according to a predetermined schedule until a match is considered to exist.

46. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising a computer program with instructions which are arranged in execution to carry out the method as claimed in claim 41.

47. (Previously Presented) A system for transferring data, comprising
a portable data carrier, which comprises a carrier storage for storing data containing a biometric template and an application-specific function as well as carrier communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data; and
an external arrangement comprising arrangement communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data, and a sensor for recording a biometric sample,
wherein the external arrangement is arranged to transmit the biometric sample to the portable data carrier,
the portable data carrier further comprises carrier processing means for comparing the biometric template with the biometric sample received from the external arrangement, and
the portable data carrier and the external arrangement are arranged to complete a mutual handshake process, the portable data carrier is arranged to perform the application-specific function and transmit a result of the same to the external arrangement, and the external arrangement is arranged to receive the result from the portable data carrier, only if the biometric sample matches the biometric template.

48. (Previously Presented) A method of transferring data between
a portable data carrier which comprises a carrier storage for storing data containing a biometric template and an application-specific function, as well as carrier communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data, and
an external arrangement which comprises arrangement communication means for contactless receipt and transmission of data, and a sensor, the method comprising:
recording a biometric sample by means of the sensor,;

transmitting from the external arrangement the biometric sample to the portable data carrier;

receiving in the portable data carrier the biometric sample from the external arrangement;

comparing by carrier processing means in the data carrier the biometric sample with the biometric template; and

completing a handshake process between the portable data carrier and the external arrangement, performing in the portable data carrier the application-specific function and transmitting a result of the same to the external arrangement, as well as receiving in the external arrangement the result from the portable data carrier, only if the biometric sample matches the biometric template.